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VENOM

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MARVEL
SPIDER-MAN GROUP

SINNER TAKES ALL!

EAT THIS!

LUZNIAR
KOBUSH

If the righteous are repaid on earth, how much more the wicked and the sinner! proverbs 11:31
IF MY THUMB SHOULD SLIP OFF THIS DEAD MAN'S SWITCH, TWENTY POUNDS OF PLASTIC EXPLOSIVES WILL SEND US ALL TO ETERNITY!
ANN WEYING IS AN INNOCENT!
YOU LET HER GO, SIN-EATER, OR--
YOUR EX-WIFE CHOSE TO BE ONE OF THE EVIL BROOD, VENOM--
--PHARISEES, SCRIBES AND LAW-MAKERS!
SHE CHOSE TO DEFEND THE EVIL ACTIONS OF THE OPPORTUNIST FORDHAM RHODES, AND THUS...

REDEEMABLE UPON REQUEST

...SHE HAS BEEN JUDGED AND FOUND WANTING!!

NOOOOOO!

BA-BOOM!

EEEEEEEE!!

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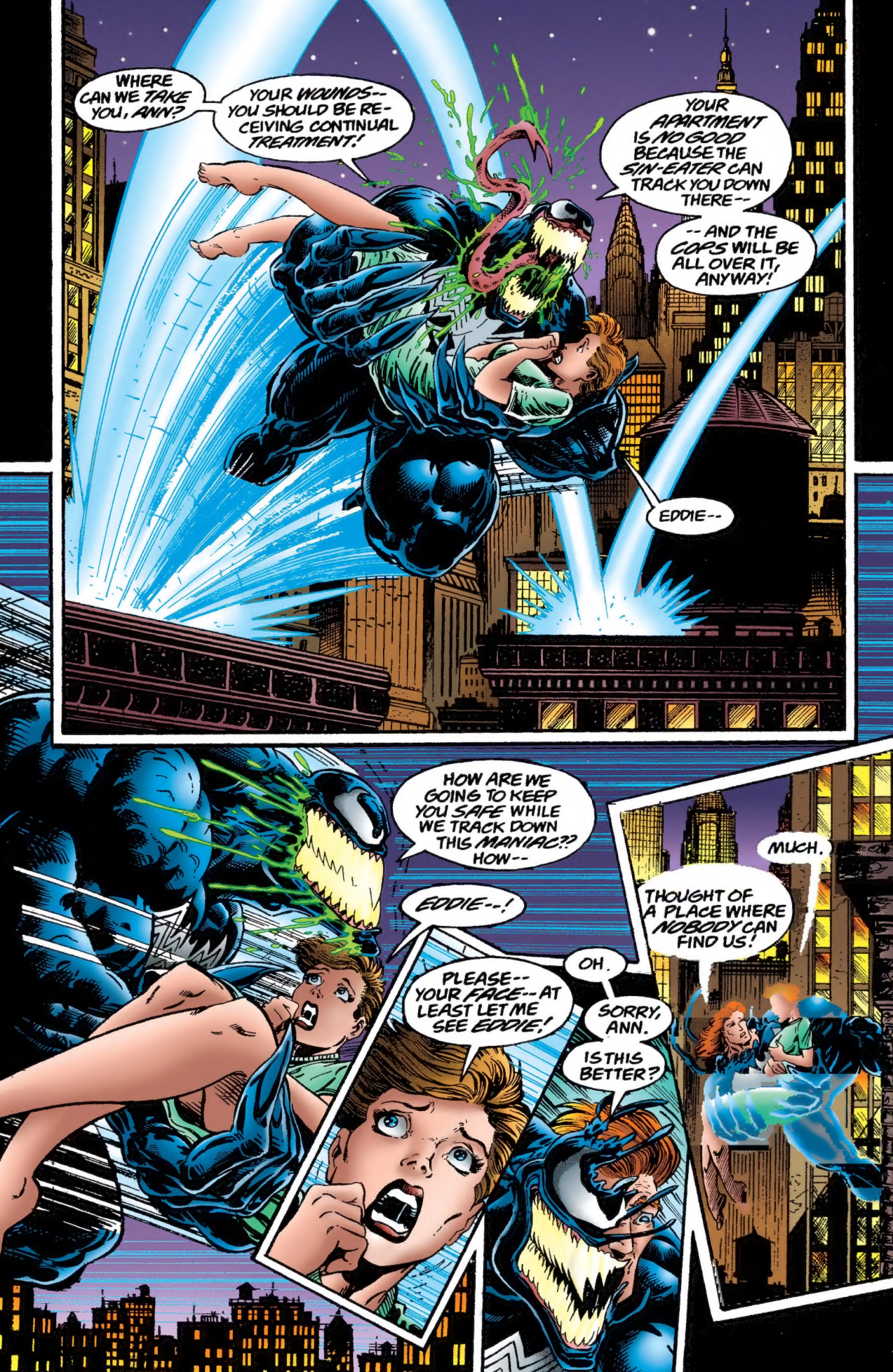
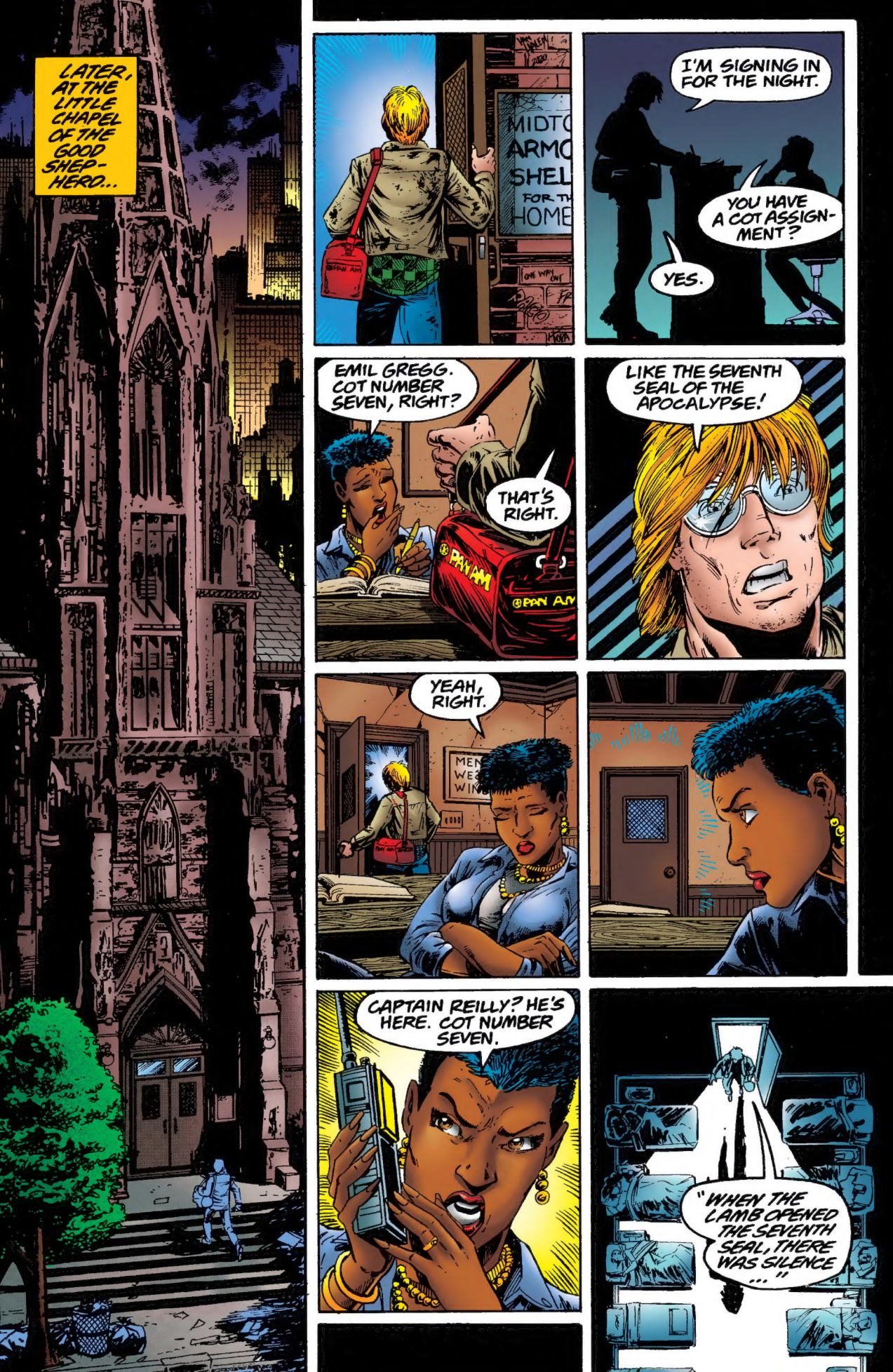
LETTERING — JOHN COSTANZA
EDITOR — TOM BREVOORT
EDITOR IN CHIEF — BOB BUDIANSKY

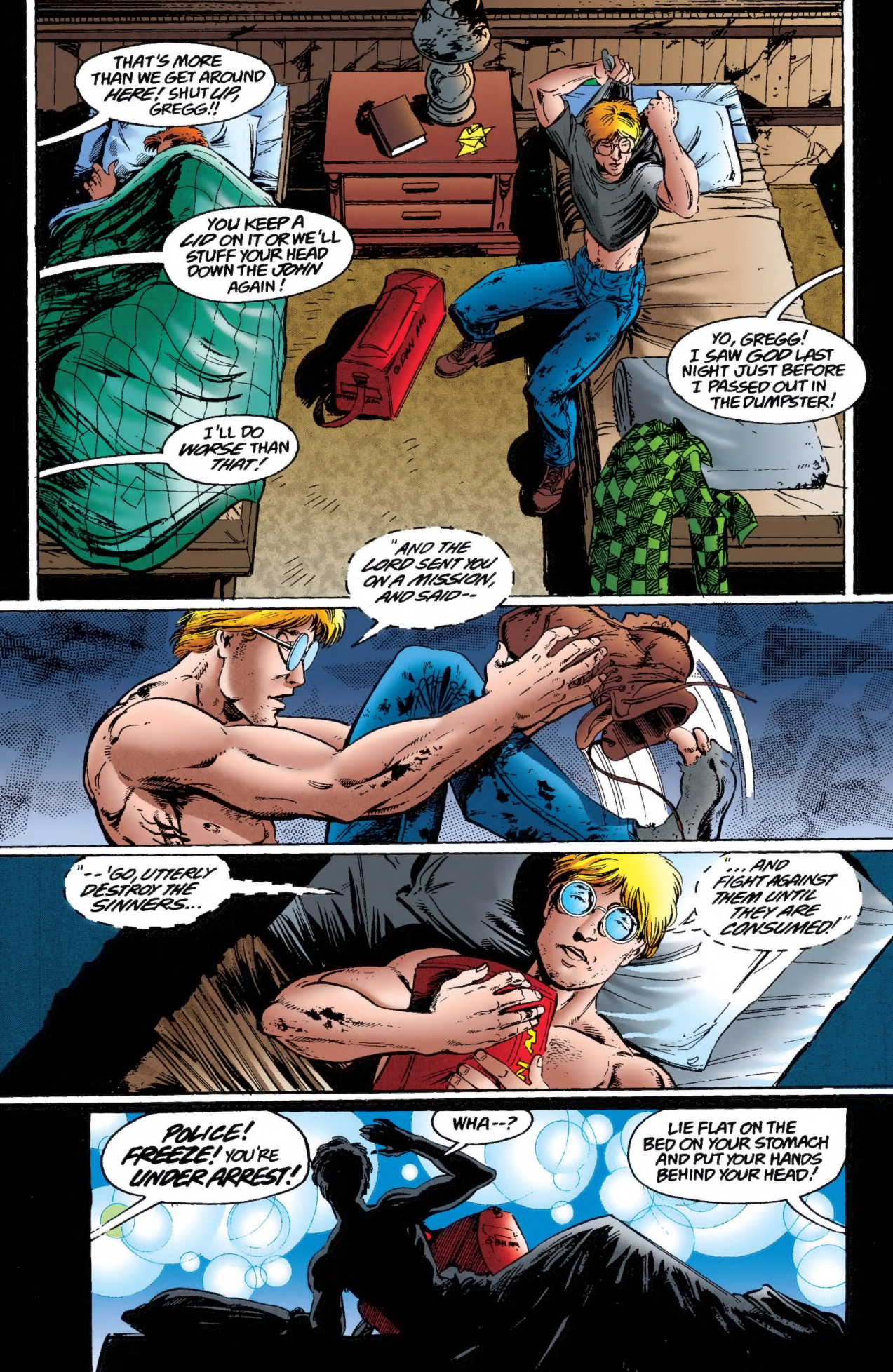
FWOMP!
GO FOR IT, SIN-EATER!
YOU TALK BIG, BUT WE DON'T THINK YOU HAVE THE GUTS TO LIFT YOUR THUMB--
EVEN WHILE WE'RE PULLING YOUR SPINAL CORD OUT THROUGH YOUR NOSE!
GIVE IT UP, LAD!
I DON'T THINK YOU REALLY WANT TO MEET YOUR MAKER WITH THE SIN O' SUICIDE BLACKENIN' YER SOUL!
I AM BEYOND SIN, CHIEF REILLY!
BA-DOOM
SPANGG

CHIEF REILLY!! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
BLESS YOU FOR THINKIN' O'ME, MISS WEYING--
--ME BULLET-PROOF VEST HAS SAVED ME AGAIN!
BIC BIC
FOOMP!
HE'S GONE--!
THE SIN-EATER HAS GONE AND DEFENES-TRATED HIMSELF!
HE'S MADE GOOD HIS ESCAPE!
PROBABLY HAD RAPPELING GEAR WITH HIM!
REILLY! ARE YOU IN THERE?
I'VE GOT THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL IN HERE, SEAMUS!
DON'T BE CHARGING IN WITH GUNS BLAZING UNLESS I GIVE THE WORD!
YOU'RE CALLING IT, CHIEF!

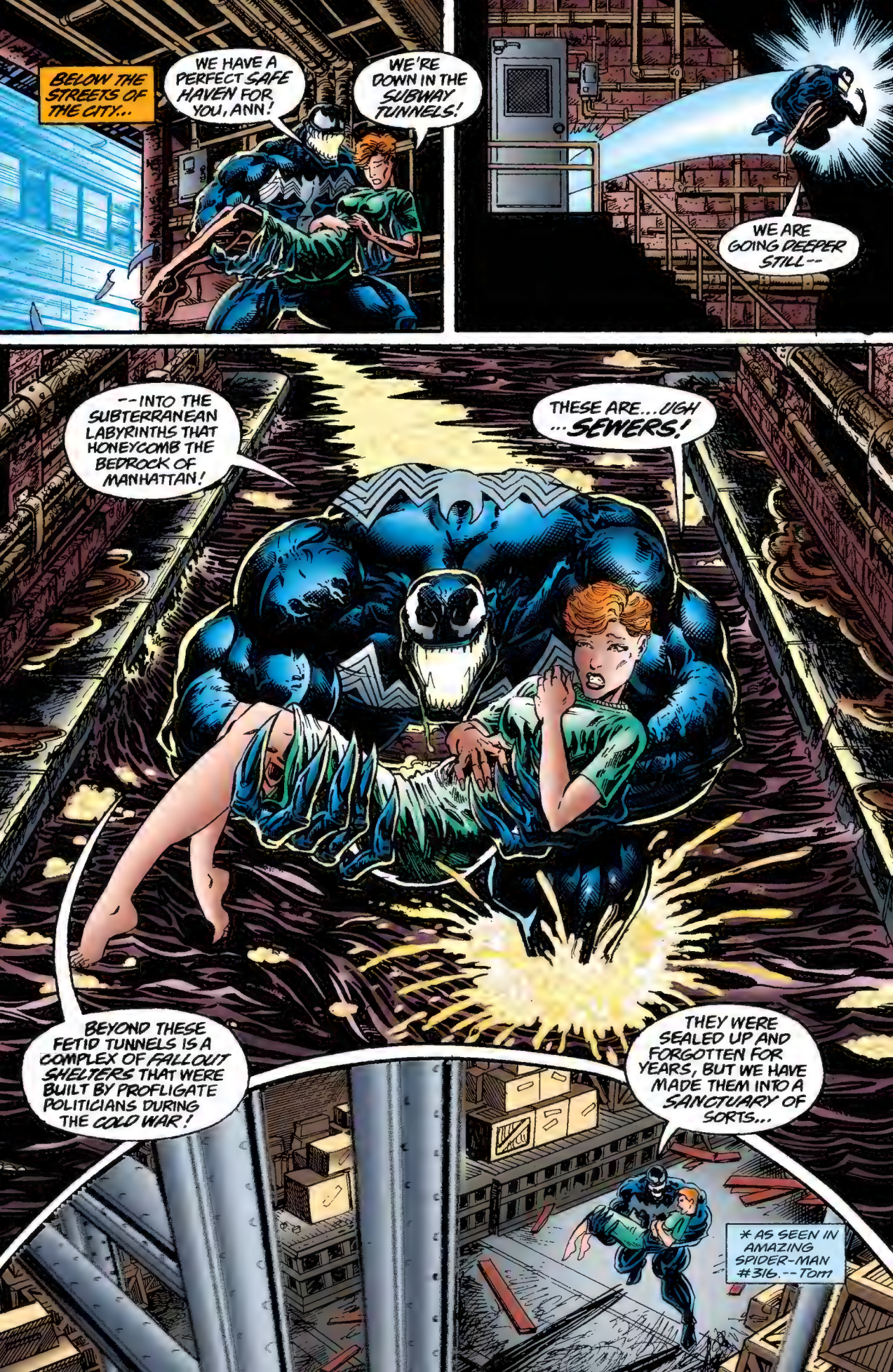
THOSE BOYS COME CHARGIN' IN, SOMEBODY'S BOUND TO GET HURT, AND THERE'S BEEN TOO MUCH O'THAT ALREADY.
AS BAD AN EGG AS YE ARE, YE PUT YOURSELF BETWEEN THAT MADMAN AND THE GIRL, AND THAT'S IN YER FAVOR.
WE HAD THE BEST WE HAD GUARDIN' HER, AND IT WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH--
--SO YOU JUST DO WHAT YE HAVE TO DO TO KEEP HER SAFE, AND WE'LL SORT OUT THE CONSEQUENCES LATER!
COME ON IN, SEAMUS!
POK
EVERYBODY FREEZE--HUH?
SOMEBODY FETCH ME A SAWBONES--
WHAT ARE YE ALL GAPING AT--
--YOU EXPECT TO FIND VENOM IN HERE?


WHERE CAN WE TAKE YOU, ANN?
YOUR WOUNDS-- YOU SHOULD BE RECEIVING CONTINUAL TREATMENT!
YOUR APARTMENT IS NO GOOD BECAUSE THE SIN-EATER CAN TRACK YOU DOWN THERE--
-- AND THE COPS WILL BE ALL OVER IT, ANYWAY!
EDDIE--
HOW ARE WE GOING TO KEEP YOU SAFE WHILE WE TRACK DOWN THIS MANIAC?? HOW--
EDDIE--!
PLEASE-- YOUR FACE-- AT LEAST LET ME SEE EDDIE!
OH.
SORRY, ANN.
IS THIS BETTER?
MUCH.
THOUGHT OF A PLACE WHERE NOBODY CAN FIND US!


LATER, AT THE LITTLE CHAPEL OF THE GOOD SHEP-HERD...
I'M SIGNING IN FOR THE NIGHT.
YOU HAVE A COT ASSIGN-MENT?
YES.
EMIL GREGG. COT NUMBER SEVEN, RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT.
LIKE THE SEVENTH SEAL OF THE APOCALYPSE!
YEAH, RIGHT.
CAPTAIN REILLY? HE'S HERE. COT NUMBER SEVEN.
"WHEN THE LAMB OPENED THE SEVENTH SEAL, THERE WAS SILENCE ... "


THAT'S MORE THAN WE GET AROUND HERE! SHUT UP, GREGG!!
YOU KEEP A LID ON IT OR WE'LL STUFF YOUR HEAD DOWN THE JOHN AGAIN!
I'LL DO WORSE THAN THAT!
YO, GREGG! I SAW GOD LAST NIGHT JUST BEFORE I PASSED OUT IN THE DUMPSTER!
"AND THE LORD SENT YOU ON A MISSION, AND SAID--
"--'GO, UTTERLY DESTROY THE SINNERS...
"...AND FIGHT AGAINST THEM UNTIL THEY ARE CONSUMED!"
POLICE! FREEZE! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
WHA--?
LIE FLAT ON THE BED ON YOUR STOMACH AND PUT YOUR HANDS BEHIND YOUR HEAD!

DON'T EVEN FLINCH, GREGG!
READ HIM THE MIRANDA!
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT...
WHAT'S IN THE BAG, GREGG?!
NOTHING! JUST TRACTS! BIBLE TRACTS!
I AM
TRACTS, HUH?
THIS MUST BE A CHAPTER OUTTA APOC-ALYPSE!
LET'S GO, COP-KILLER!
I SHALL BE DELIVERED, EVEN AS DANIEL IN HIS INNOCENCE WAS DELIVERED FROM THE MOUTHS OF THE LIONS!
"WHEN I WHET MY FLASHING SWORD, AND MY HAND TAKES HOLD ON JUDGMENT;
"I WILL TAKE VENGEANCE ON MY ADVERSARIES...
"...AND WILL REPAY THOSE WHO HATE ME." DEUTERONOMY 32:41


BELOW THE STREETS OF THE CITY...
WE HAVE A PERFECT SAFE HAVEN FOR YOU, ANN!
WE'RE DOWN IN THE SUBWAY TUNNELS!
WE ARE GOING DEEPER STILL--
--INTO THE SUBTERRANEAN LABYRINTHS THAT HONEYCOMB THE BEDROCK OF MANHATTAN!
THESE ARE...UGH ...SEWERS!
BEYOND THESE FETID TUNNELS IS A COMPLEX OF FALLOUT SHELTERS THAT WERE BUILT BY PROFLIGATE POLITICIANS DURING THE COLD WAR!
THEY WERE SEALED UP AND FORGOTTEN FOR YEARS, BUT WE HAVE MADE THEM INTO A SANCTUARY OF SORTS...
* AS SEEN IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #316.--Tom

AND YOUR WOUNDS ARE BLEEDING AGAIN!
OHHH! I'M HURTING!! THE PAIN KILLERS MUST BE WEARING OFF--
ALL THIS TRAVELING MUST HAVE STRETCHED THE SUTURES-- SHE MIGHT EVEN BE BLEEDING IN-TERNALLY!
WE MUST DO SOMETHING TO HELP HER!
YES?
WE COULD DO THAT?
IT WOULD BE A SHARING?
ANN... WE ARE GOING TO EXTEND THE SYMBIOTE AROUND YOU, TO HEAL YOU--
--THIS WILL INVOLVE YOUR BECOMING A PART OF US FOR A WHILE--
A PART OF THAT THING??
OH MY GOD--
--WHAT ARE YOU SAYING??
THERE'S NOTHING ELSE WE--
--I CAN DO, ANN.
IT'S THE ONLY WAY.

DON'T BE AFRAID, ANN.
THE OTHER IS A FRIEND!
IT'S HORRID!!
I SAW WHAT IT DID TO YOU--
IT CHANGED YOU! IT MADE YOU--
OH...
RELAX.
LET YOUR PAIN MELT AWAY.
OH, EDDIE... IT'S SO WARM AND SOOTHING...
...LIKE A NICE HOT BATH.
SHHHH...
...JUST LET YOURSELF DRIFT OFF TO SLEEP.

AT MIDTOWN CENTRAL...
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO WAIVE YOUR RIGHTS AND MAKE A STATEMENT, MR. GREGG?
I TOLD YOU BEFORE THAT I WAS THE SIN-EATER, BUT DID YOU BELIEVE ME???
IT WAS THE VOICES, I TELL YOU -- THE VOICES THAT CAME THROUGH THE WALL!
THEY WERE ANGELS OF THE LORD, WHISPERING INSTRUCTIONS TO ME!! I WAS SIMPLY DOING THE LORD'S WORK!
WHAT DO YOU THINK, DETECTIVE STEEN?
I DON'T LIKE IT, CHIEF.
GREGG SHOULD HAVE COUNSEL PRESENT. WE HAVE THE GUN AND THE EXPLOSIVES AND THE COSTUME.
WHEN FINGERPRINTS AND FORENSICS CONFIRM THE CONNECTION, WE HAVE A SOLID CASE WITHOUT A STATEMENT!
RIGHT. LET'S GET HIM OUT OF HERE AND INTO ISOLATION...

YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T BE HERE, MRS. KOWALSKI. THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR SON HERE--
HE WORKED HERE! YOU WERE HIS FRIENDS! CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING??
SOMEBODY'S GOTTA DRIVE STAN'S MOM HOME AND STAY WITH HER--
I'LL DO IT. WE GOTTA TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN, RIGHT?
HER SON WAS KILLED BY GREGG!
GET HER OUT OF HERE!!
IS THAT HIM??
IS THAT THE BUM??
HOLDING
BOOKING
A-D CELL
BLAMM!!

SHE'S SLIPPING!
HER PULSE IS FADING!
HER LIPS ARE TURNING BLUE--
THERE'S NOTHING ELSE LEFT TO DO!
WE MUST SEPARATE!
YOU, MY OTHER, MUST MELD WITH ANN COMPLETELY!
IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE HER!
YES, I UNDERSTAND THE TORMENT OF SUNDERING OUR SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP--
--BUT YOU CAN'T REFUSE!
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE, IF YOU DON'T DO THIS...
...I'LL LEAVE YOU FOREVER!
UNDERSTOOD?
GO AHEAD AND DO IT.

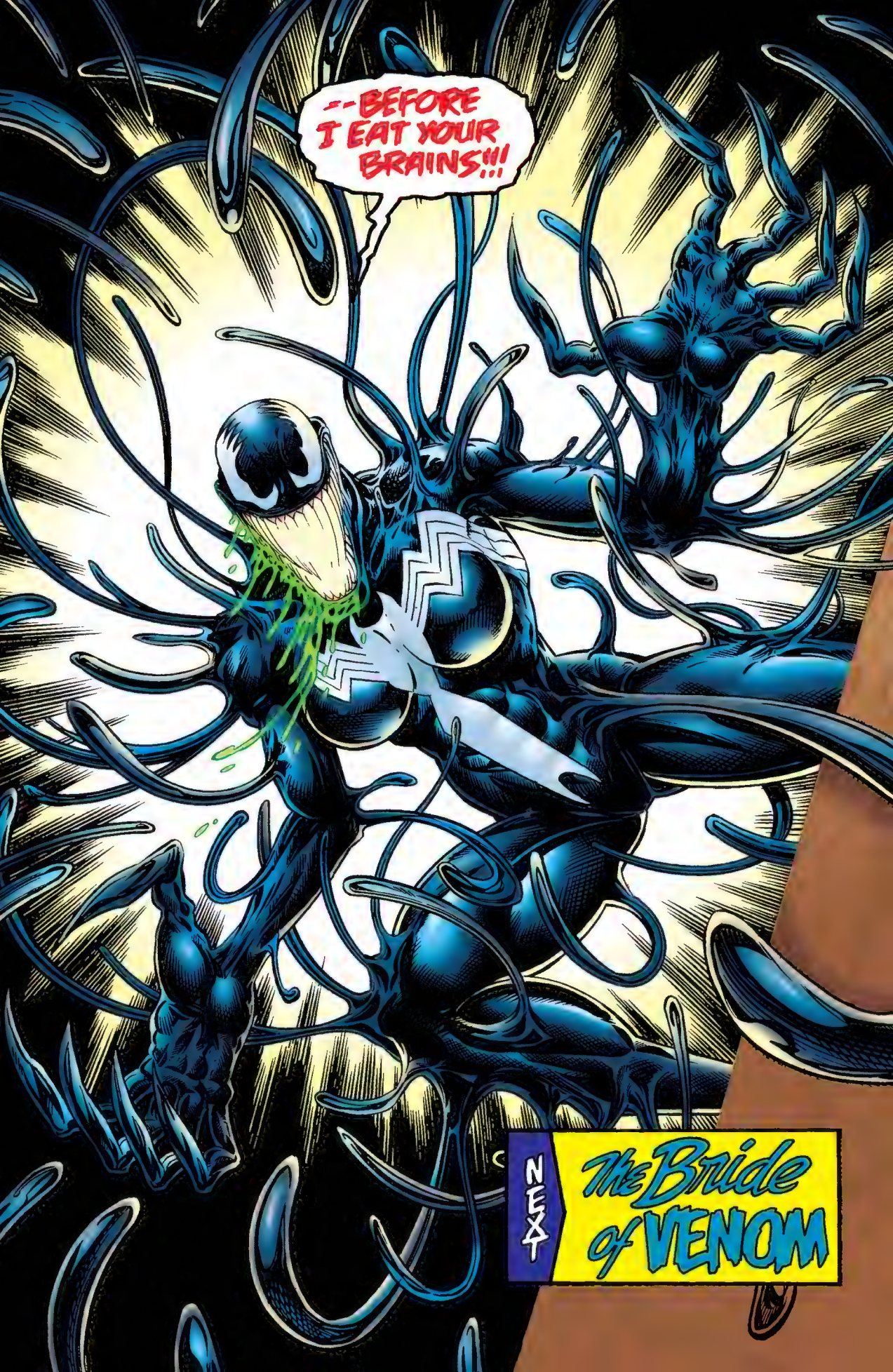
WE'RE GOING TO MAKE YOU ALL RIGHT AGAIN, ANN...
...WE PROMISE.
I PROMISE.

AT MIDTOWN CENTRAL...
BAD NEWS FROM THE LAB!
THE PARAFIN TEST ON GREGG'S HANDS CAME BACK NEGATIVE.
THE GUY HASN'T FIRED A GUN IN THE LAST WEEK, LET ALONE IN THE LAST FEW HOURS!
HE WAS WEARING GLOVES!
THE SHOTGUN AND BAG ARE COVERED WITH FINGERPRINTS-- ONLY NONE OF THEM ARE EMIL GREGG'S!
HOLY SMOKE! WE GOT THE WRONG GUY?
THEN THE REAL SIN-EATER IS STILL OUT THERE LOOSE?
IT GETS WORSE! WE GOT A MATCH ON THE PRINTS FROM THE GUN...
...THEY BELONG TO A MICHAEL ENGELSCHWERT. THIS GUY WAS AN AIRBORNE RANGER IN THE GULF WAR--

"--EXPERT MARKSMAN, HAND-TO-HAND, EXPLOSIVES TRAINING, THE WORKS!!"
...Amazing Grace how sweet the sound...
HEY, SHADDUP!
...That saved a wretch like me!
WE GOT RID OF GREGG, NOW WE GOT ENGLE-SQUIRT ACTIN' UP?
YO! CHILL OUT ON MICKEY E.!
HE BAD OR SOMETHIN'?
HE GOT THEM LOOSE CARNATIONS, MAN...
...But now am found...
ENGELSCWHERT MICHAEL G.
...FROM BEIN' NEXT TO GREGG ALL THAT TIME, SOAKIN' UP THEM WEIRDNESS RAYS COMIN' OUT HIS WHACK HEAD--
...was BLIND, but now, I SEE!!!
--AN' MICKEY E. AIN'T PACKIN' NO BIBLE, MAN-- THAT BOY IS STRAPPIN'!

CLICK!
EH?
THE DOOR--
--I FORGOT TO LOCK IT!
BAD NEWS, SINCE THERE'S NOBODY PROWLING AROUND DOWN HERE...
...BUT PREDATORS.!!
WELL LOOKY HERE, BIG BROWN--! WE DONE STUMBLED ON A SECRET HIDEAWAY!
WATCHOO HIDIN' HERE, FABIO? YOU GOT ANY MONEY? YOU GOT ANY DRUGS?
WHAT I HAVE IS UTTER CONTEMPT...

...FOR THE BOTTOM FEEDERS OF SOCIETY'S DREGS!
WHOOMP
YOU HYENAS--
PA-CHAK!
--NIPPING AT THE HEELS OF THE HELPLESS...
CRACK
...AND THE INNOCENT!!
PA-CHOOM
KA-CHANG!
YOU GOT A BIG MOUTH, FABIO!
NOW I'M GONNA FLATTEN YER HEAD OUT TO FIT IT--
DROP THE BAT, PUS-FACE--
SAY WHA--?


--BEFORE I EAT YOUR BRAINS!!!
NEXT
The Bride of VENOM

THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE.
THE FINAL DESTINATION OF A CHARTERED FLIGHT NOT LISTED ON ANY OFFICIAL MANIFESTS OR LOGS.
NO WATCHES, CELLULAR PHONES, OR COMPUTERS ARE ALLOWED ON BOARD.
A SPECIAL CABIN SUSPENSION ALTERS WITH EACH COURSE CHANGE--
--DISTORTING EVERY PASSENGER'S SENSE OF DIRECTION.
AND THEN THERE ARE THE WINDOWS.
ONE-WAY MIRRORS, FACING THE WRONG WAY.
MISS? WE'RE ABOUT TO LAND.
I NEED YOU TO PUT ON THIS SENSORY DE-PRIVOR BEFORE WE DEPLANE.
MISS? I...
OH... I'M SORRY, MS. LENTZ. I FORGOT IT WAS YOU.
SIR? I NEED YOU TO PUT ON THIS SENSORY--
EN ESPAÑOL, POR FAVOR.
SÍ. LO SIENTO, SEÑOR.
THE LANDING GEAR BUMPS AGAINST THE GROUND.
AND OLIVIA LENTZ IS ONE STEP CLOSER TO HER NEW HOME.
WHEREVER IT MAY BE.

OLIVIA? OLIVIA CENTZ?
AND YOU MUST BE MAX TAYLOR?
YUP. TODAY, I'M YOUR EQUITY INC. WELCOME WAGON.
BUT COME TRIAL TIME...
... I'M GONNA BE THE FELLA BEHIND THE OTHER BENCH.
A JOHNNY COCHRAN TO MY MARCIA CLARK?
PERISH THE THOUGHT.
SO WHERE'S THE REST OF THE BIG WIGS?
FAR AS OUR JUDGE, THE GAVEL, GOES...
... NO ONE, BUT NO ONE, SEES HIM BEFORE A TRIAL.
AND THE JURY?
"WELL, THEY'RE KINDA BUSY AT THE MOMENT."
FIREARM! BOMBLAST! YOU ALL RIGHT?!
M'OKAY, SIR.
B.B.? HOW YOU DOIN', MAN?
I'M COMIN'...

THE JURY in TRIAL RUN:

PAST THE BARS

Last time:

The JURY invaded the South American country of BOCA DEL DIOS in order to extract their top political prisoner. Everything was going smoothly, until they ran into a cache of deadly DREADNAUGHTS.

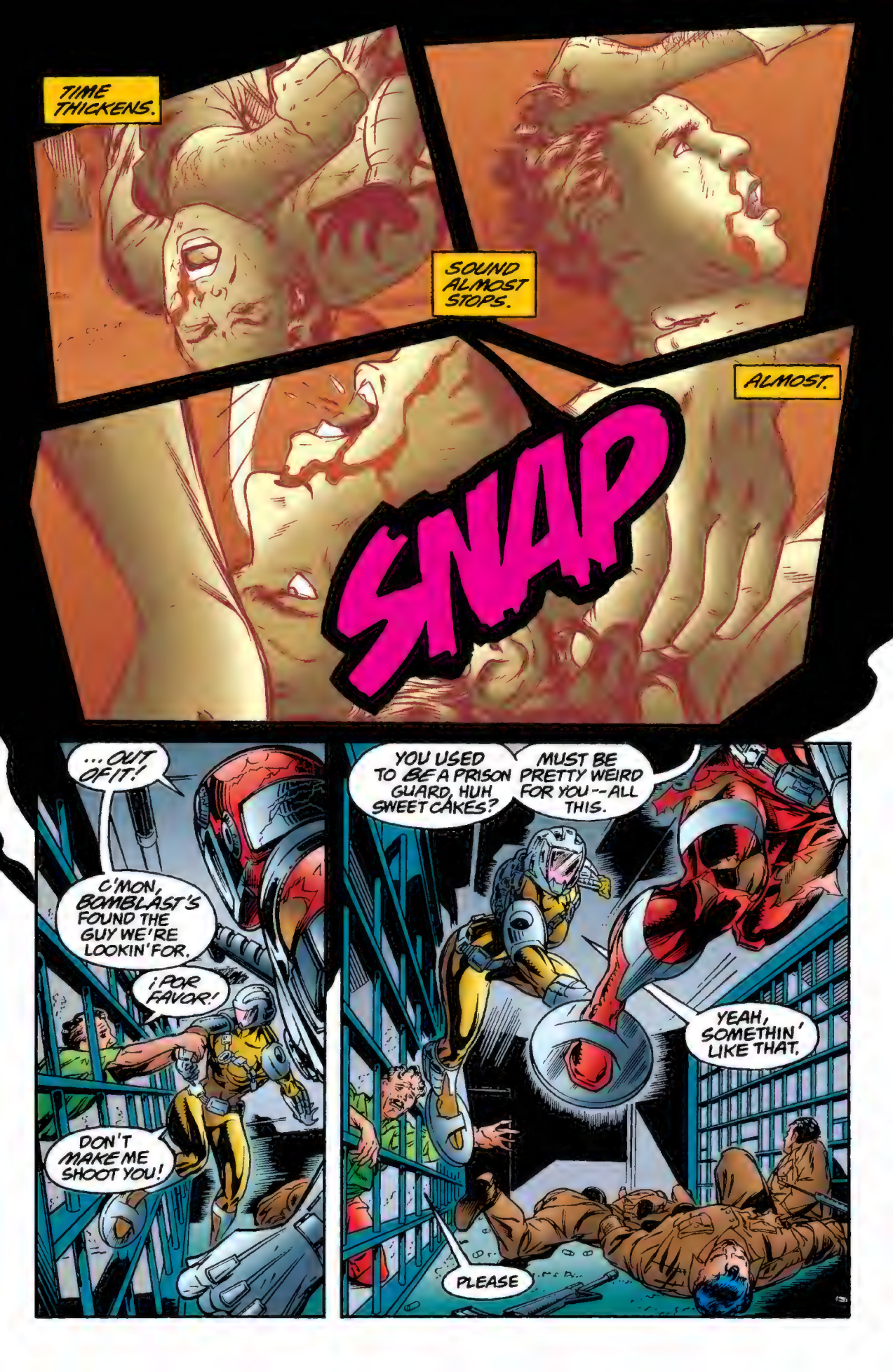
SLOTT-writer• CALIMEE-penciler• ADAMS-inker• COSTANZA-letterer• BERNARDO-colorist• BREVOORT-editor• BUDIANSKY-chief

YOU WILL BE DESTROYED!
SHRIAK
MY SONICS AREN'T STOPPING IT!
I NEED SOME HELP OVER HERE!
*&#@! WYSPER!
RAISE YOUR WEAPON SETTINGS!
THOSE AREN'T MEN IN SUITS, THEY'RE JUST MACHINES!
SENTRY!
YOU'RE REALLY DISAPPOINTING ME, SOLDIER!
KTANG
NO ONE ESCAPES THE DREADNAU--EKZZ

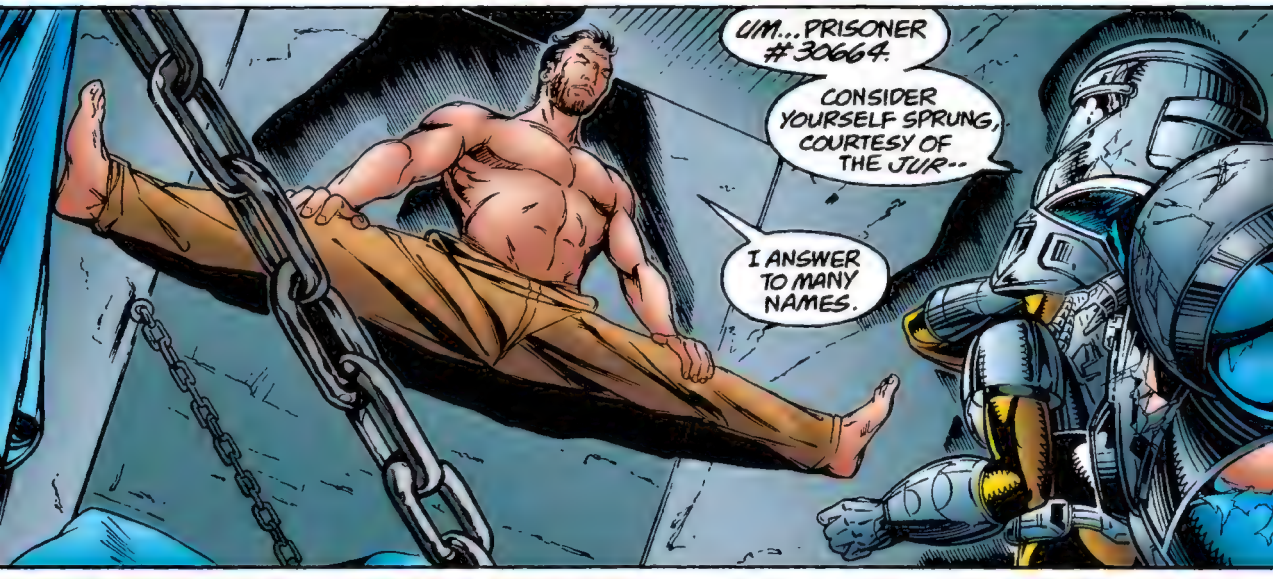
GET IN GEAR, PEOPLE!
AND GET THERE FAST!
WHUM
"BY NOW, THE BOGANS HAVE MOBILIZED THEIR AIR FORCE."
"I GIVE IT TWELVE MINUTES TOPS...
..."TILL WE'RE UP TO OUR EYE-TEETH IN GUNSHIPS."
WHAT DO WE DO, SIR??
CHANGE IN PLANS.
RAMSHOT AND I'LL HOLD OFF THE REMAINING DREADNAUGHTS.
BOMBLAST, WYSPER, FIREARM-- COMPLETE THE MISSION!
GO!
YOU WILL BE D-D-DESTROY-OIIIID--

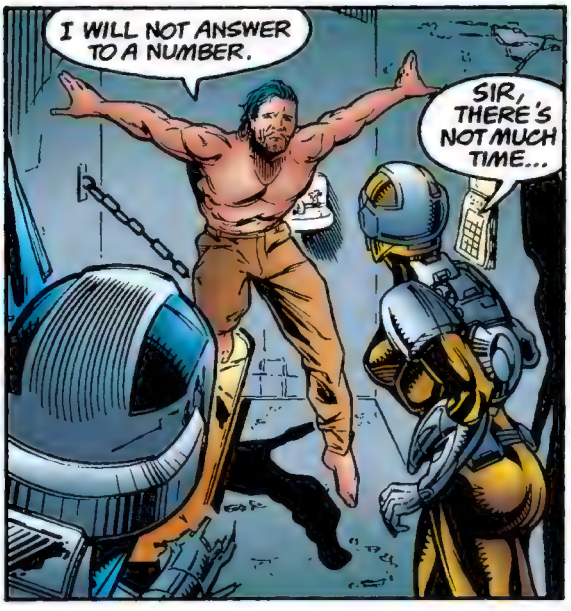
IT'S PARTY TIME!
B.Y.O.G.!
BY THE NUMBERS, BOYS AND GIRLS.
FORM A WEDGE, GOLD TAKE THE POINT!
ALL RIGHT, JURY
TAKE NO PRISONERS!
KRUNCH
WELL, 'CEPT THE ONE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO TAKE, 'NATCH!
AAAIIII
AKER
BRAAT
PCHAW
YAAAA
SHRAKK

AMERICAN DOGS!
YOU'RE NO BETTER THAN OUR BOCAN DEATH SQUADS!
YOU THINK YOUR GUNS AND YOUR WEAPONS GIVE YOU THE RIGHT TO DO WHATEVER YOU WANT!
BLAM
YEAH?!
AND?!!
UH...
NADA.
LADY! PLEASE! DON'T LEAVE US LIKE THIS!
OPEN THE DOORS! OPEN THE DOORS!
FOR WYSAER IT ONLY TAKES A TOUCH, A LOOK, A MOMENT.
AND EVERYTHING'S RISING BACK TO THE SURFACE.
THE PAIN, THE FEAR, THE PAST.
DEAR GOD, PLEASE! RYAN!
REACHING PAST THE BARS.


TIME THICKENS.
SOUND ALMOST STOPS.
ALMOST.
SNAP
...OUT OF IT!
C'MON, BOMBLAST'S FOUND THE GUY WE'RE LOOKIN' FOR.
¡POR FAVOR!
DON'T MAKE ME SHOOT YOU!
YOU USED TO BE A PRISON GUARD, HUH SWEET CAKES?
MUST BE PRETTY WEIRD FOR YOU--ALL THIS.
YEAH, SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT.
PLEASE

BUDDA-BING?
BUDDA-BOOM!
JACKPOT, MY FRIEND!
RRENCHH


UM... PRISONER #30664.
CONSIDER YOURSELF SPRUNG, COURTESY OF THE JUR--
I ANSWER TO MANY NAMES.


I WILL NOT ANSWER TO A NUMBER.
SIR, THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME...

ALVAREZ.
YOU MAY CALL ME CAPTAIN LUIS ALVAREZ.

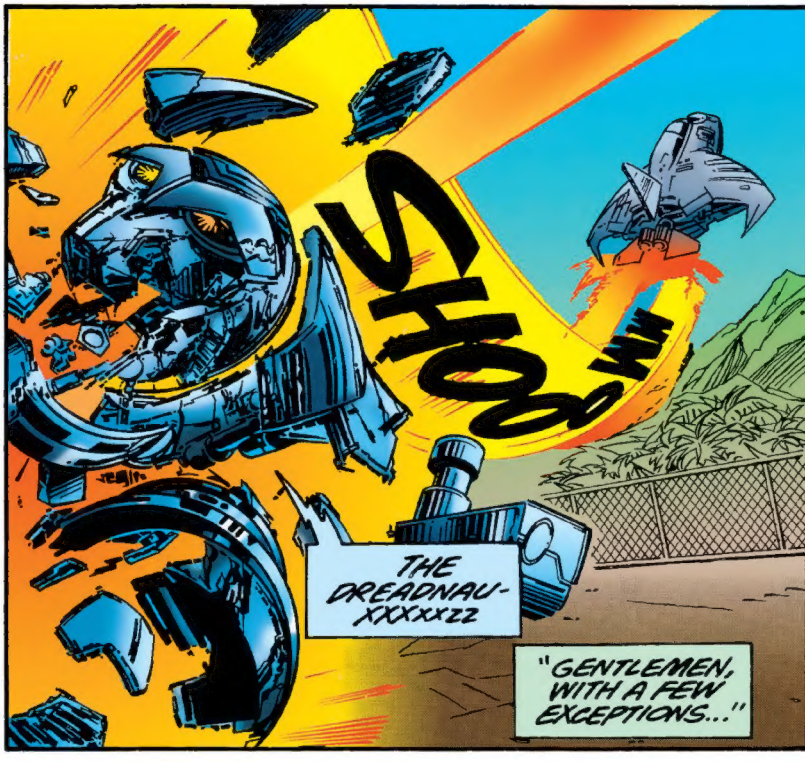
OUTSIDE.
UNNH
CHOOM
KEEP YOUR PANTYHOSE ON, BOYS!
CAVALRY'S HERE!
HANG IN, SAM!
OTHERS COUNTING ON--
COUNTING ON--
YEE HA!
DIE!
STEREO! COOL!

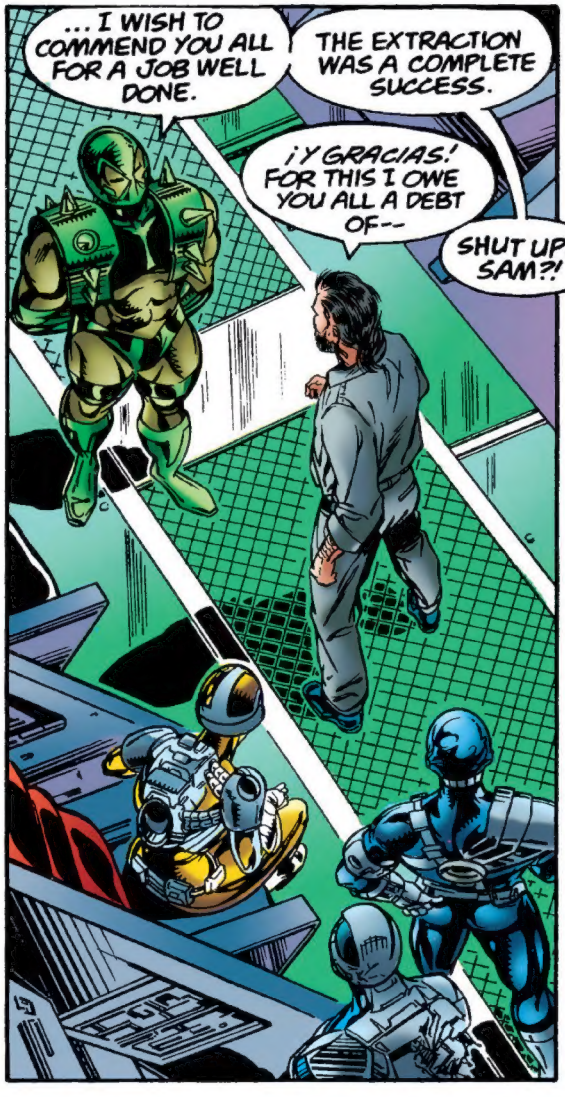
HEADS UP, TEAM!
JUSTIFIER* AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK!
SHE'S COMIN' IN FAST!
EVERY-BODY FALL BACK, NOW!
KHOOM
* the Jury's transport ship. --Tom
SQUAWKKK--
INCOMING!
WHHAM
FLYBOY, THERE'S A WHOLE UNIT HERE THAT WANTS YOUR HAND IN MARRIAGE!
BETTER BE A SHORT CEREMONY, SIR!
'CAUSE WE GOT A LOT A' UNINVITED GUESTS HEADIN' FOR OUR BACK PORCH!

AND I DON'T THINK THEY'RE HERE TO CATCH NO BOUQUET.
UNDER-STOOD.
SO LET'S OPEN THIS BABY UP AND HAUL--
AAAHH!
SENTRY!
SNATCH
NO ONE ES-ES-ESCAPES
THE DREADNA-NA-NAUGHTS!
I'VE GOT YOU!

YOU WILL BE-BE-BE-BE
DESTROYED!
*@%#!
THE JUSTIFIER CAN'T HANDLE THIS!
SHE'S NOT LEVEL-ING OFF!
LET GO, JENNY!
NO!
NO TIME TO ARGUE!
N-N-NO
I'M ORDERING YOU!
LET GO!
N-NO
GNNH
THAT'S A NO CAN DO, CAPTAIN!
N-NO ONE

ES-ES-ES-ESCAPES
POP


SHOOM
THE DREADNAU-XXXXXZZ
"GENTLEMEN, WITH A FEW EXCEPTIONS..."


... I WISH TO COMMEND YOU ALL FOR A JOB WELL DONE.
THE EXTRACTION WAS A COMPLETE SUCCESS.
¡Y GRACIAS! FOR THIS I OWE YOU ALL A DEBT OF--
SHUT UP! SAM?!

YES SIR.
RAMSHOT! WHAT ARE YOU--?
PAH
YAH
HNH?
¿QUE ES...?

LATER, BACK AT EQUITY INC.
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE TRYING TO SAVE THIS MAN...
THE JURY DOESN'T "SAVE," WYSPER, IT PROTECTS.
"PROTECTS THE WORLD FROM MEN LIKE THIS LUIS ALVAREZ.
"WE TOLD YOU BEFORE--
"BY OUR STANDARDS, THE SENTENCE HE WAS FACING...
"...WAS DEPLORABLE.
"HE HAD JUST BEEN SERVING A LIFE-TERM.
¿DONDE...?
WHERE AM I?
"AND THAT WAS TOO GOOD FOR HIM."

LUIS ALVAREZ, YOU STAND BEFORE THIS COURT...
...CHARGED WITH HEINOUS ACTS AGAINST THE COMMON MAN.
CRIMES YOU COMMITTED AS...
...LA TARANTULA!
LET THE TRIAL BEGIN!
TO BE CONTINUED

KAMIC RIDER
MARIKA